

REMARKS

This amendment is supplemental to the amendment filed 11/21/03.

Claim 17 was amended in order to better define the invention.

Claims 24 and 25 were added in order to provide applicants with protection commensurate in scope with the invention disclosed.

At page 3 of the Office Action of 9/24/03, the examiner argues that "inherently, the oscillators and transconductance stages (210,212) allow for the phase shifting of the current supplied by the respective stages (210,212)". In view of the foregoing statement by the Patent and Trademark Office and from the description in the Liu patent, the coupling m and $-m$ are theoretically 180 degrees phase-shifted, but practically, because of the "inherent" phase shifting, this is not true. As a consequence, at resonance the current through the transistors of the multivibrators (M1,M2; M5,M6) of Liu is not maximum, whereas a maximum current is the ideal resonance current.

In the present application (e.g. page 2, line 23), is the statement that "a maximum current through the resonator is obtained because of the use of a phase shifter". The Liu oscillator can achieve this ideal operation only by accident, i.e. only if the parasitic phase shifts accurately fulfill the conditions that would result in such an ideal operation. Thus, the present invention provides an important distinction over the Liu apparatus, i.e. the

provision of phase shifters that make possible the flow of maximum currents through the resonators via a suitable choice of the phase shift.

Claim 24 is patentable over the Liu apparatus since it calls for the phase shifter to shift the phase of the supplied current so that a maximum current flows through its respective resonator.

Claim 25 is patentable over the Liu apparatus since it recites that the resonators determine the oscillation frequency of the oscillator.

Please charge the cost of any additional fees in connection with the above amendment to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Reexamination and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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